



# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA  
Chief Executive Officer

August 17, 2011

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From: William T Fujioka  
Chief Executive Officer

## **SACRAMENTO UPDATE**

This memorandum contains an update on the return of the Legislature from its summer recess; a pursuit of County-sponsored legislation relating to the Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System (LA-RICS); the status of County-sponsored legislation relating to the drawdown of Federal matching funds to provide medical treatment to minors; the status of 13 County-advocacy bills; and an update of County interest legislation relating to the City of Vernon disincorporation.

### **Legislature Reconvenes from Summer Recess**

On August 15, 2011, the Legislature reconvened from a month-long summer recess to take action on remaining legislation leading up to the conclusion of the first year of the 2011-12 Legislative Session. The last day for any bill to be passed by both the Assembly and Senate is September 9, 2011. The Governor must sign or veto bills passed by Legislature by October 9, 2011.

### **Pursuit of County-Sponsored Legislation**

Consistent with existing Board policy to support legislation to provide resources to implement new technical standards for public safety interoperability communications in the Los Angeles region, we will pursue County-sponsored legislation to make revisions to existing law to allow the option to procure a regional interoperable communications system.

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"*

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Under State law, Government Code Section 5956.5, governmental agencies, including counties, cities, school districts, public districts, and joint powers authorities, are authorized to solicit proposals and enter into contracts for the design, financing, construction, maintenance, operation, or any combination thereof, for fee-producing infrastructure projects. This County-sponsored legislation would allow the County of Los Angeles, or the Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System located in Los Angeles County, to use a similar solicitation process to award a contract for the design, construction and delivery of a regional interoperable communications system and all related infrastructure.

The Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System Authority, established in 2009, is a collaborative effort which includes law enforcement, fire service, and health service professionals, and would serve over 34,000 first responders in the Los Angeles region through voice and data communication systems. The need is especially great in the Los Angeles region to connect over 50 law enforcement agencies and 31 fire departments that serve a 4,084 square mile region with 10 million County residents. The LA-RICS Authority was recently advised by counsel of several issues that required canceling its existing procurement and to start new procurement because the original Request for Proposal was not in compliance with existing State law.

Of significant concern and need for County-sponsored legislation is that there could be the potential loss of up to hundreds of millions of dollars in Federal grant funding for the LA-RICS Authority project. The Authority has been allocated Federal grants relating to the LA-RICS project, and to date, over \$270.0 million in Federal grants have been budgeted for the project which are subject to time limits. Last year, the United States Department of Commerce awarded the Authority a Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) grant of \$154.6 million to cover the infrastructure costs in deploying a broadband public safety network for the project. This particular part of the project is estimated to generate 2,181 jobs, including jobs produced indirectly from the project. In addition, the project would create a large, new market for public safety broadband software applications, which could result in substantial innovation and additional jobs that have not been quantified.

The pursuit of County-sponsored legislation is also consistent with existing Board-approved Federal legislative policy to support proposals to implement or expand interoperable communications systems, use new communications technologies, and meet increasingly complex communications requirements.

Therefore, consistent with existing Board policy to support legislation to provide resources to implement new technical standards for public safety interoperability communications in the Los Angeles region, and policy to support proposals to

implement or expand interoperable communications systems, **the Sacramento advocates will pursue County-sponsored legislation to allow the option to procure a regional interoperable communications system in the Los Angeles region under State law.**

#### **Status of County-Sponsored Legislation**

**County-sponsored AB 396 (Mitchell)**, which as amended on May 12, 2011, would allow counties and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to draw down Federal matching funds to reimburse them for the medical treatment of minors who are hospitalized and outside of the detention facilities for more than 24 hours, was placed on the Senate Appropriations Committee's suspense file on August 15, 2011, because of potential increased State costs.

#### **Status of County-Advocacy Legislation**

**County-supported SB 332 (Padilla)**, which as amended on June 23, 2011, would authorize a landlord of a residential dwelling to prohibit smoking of cigarettes, or tobacco products on the property or in any building on which the dwelling is located, passed the Senate Floor by a vote of 37 to 0 on August 15, 2011. This measure now proceeds to the Governor.

In addition, on August 15, 2011, the following County-advocacy measures were placed on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file due to potential increased costs to the State. The Committee is scheduled to review items placed on the suspense file on August 25, 2011 to determine which measures will move forward.

**County-opposed unless amended AB 6 (Fuentes)**, which as amended on April 14, 2011, would eliminate the Statewide Fingerprint Imaging System for cash assistance programs, change CalWORKs and CalFresh reporting requirements from a quarterly to a semi-annual reporting period, and establish a utility assistance initiative for CalFresh beneficiaries.

**County-supported AB 25 (Hayashi)**, which as amended on July 6, 2011, would require a school district that elects to offer athletic programs to require an athlete suspected of having a concussion or head injury to be removed from the activity and be cleared by a health care provider before returning to the activity.

**County-opposed AB 341 (Chesbro)**, which as amended on July 7, 2011, would increase the mandatory solid waste diversion from 50 percent to 75 percent and require local governments to implement a commercial recycling program.

**County-opposed AB 375 (Skinner)**, which as amended on August 15, 2011, would extend the presumption of work-related injury to hospital employees infected with blood-borne infectious diseases and Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA).

**County-supported AB 499 (Atkins)**, which as introduced on February 15, 2011, would allow a minor age 12 or older to consent to medical care related to the prevention of a sexually transmitted disease.

**County-supported AB 591 (Wieckowski)**, which as amended on July 7, 2011, would require well operators to provide the Division of Oil, Geothermal and Gas Resources of the Department of Conservation with information on the chemicals used in the oil fracturing process, the amounts of water used in the fracturing, and the disposition of that water.

**County-opposed unless amended AB 646 (Atkins)**, which as amended on June 22, 2011, would authorize an employee organization to request a fact-finding panel to resolve labor disputes when a mediator is unable to reach a settlement.

**County-supported AB 727 (Mitchell)**, which as amended on May 27, 2011, would require at least 50 percent of the food and beverages sold in vending machines or in cafeterias in State-owned or leased buildings to meet accepted nutritional guidelines effective January 1, 2014.

**County-opposed AB 947 (Solorio)**, which as amended on June 28, 2011, would increase the cap on the payment of temporary disability benefits from up to 104 weeks to up to 240 weeks.

**County-supported AB 959 (Jones)**, which as amended on August 15, 2011, would provide a one-month grace period to participants in the CalWORKs and CalFresh programs for filing required quarterly reports in order to avoid re-application.

**County-supported AB 1297 (Beall)**, which as amended July 11, 2011, would conform State claiming and reimbursement for specialty mental health services to Federal Medicaid regulations.

**County-supported AB 1382 (Hernandez)**, which as amended July 7, 2011, would authorize HIV counselors to perform skin punctures for Hepatitis C virus (HCV) or a combination of HIV/HCV tests.

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### **Legislation of County Interest**

**AB 781 (J. Pérez)**, which as amended on July 12, 2011, would establish a Community Services District (CSD) within a disincorporated city, in a unincorporated area of the County to provide successor services and designate the county board of supervisors to serve as the board of directors of the CSD was placed on the Senate Appropriations suspense file on August 15, 2011, based on the potentially significant State General Fund costs from State mandate claims from the successor government.

AB 781 is contingent upon the enactment of **County-supported AB 46 (J. Pérez)**, which as amended on June 28, 2011, would disincorporate a city with a population of less than 150 people as of January 1, 2010, into that city's respective county 91 days after the effective date of the bill.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:RA  
MR:VE:OR:sb

c: All Department Heads  
County Counsel  
Legislative Strategist  
Local 721  
Coalition of County Unions  
California Contract Cities Association  
Independent Cities Association  
League of California Cities  
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Buddy Program Participants